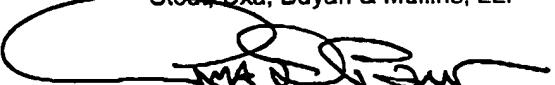


Also, by the foregoing Preliminary Amendment, Applicant has clarified the chain of priority of parent application Serial No. 09/059,531, of which this application is a continuation. This paragraph was previously amended in the transmittal papers that accompanied filing of this continuation application. Applicant notes that no continuing data is shown on the filing receipt for this application. A request for issuance of a corrected filing receipt will be filed under separate cover.

Respectfully submitted,
Stout, Uxa, Buyan & Mullins, LLP

Date: January 2, 2003

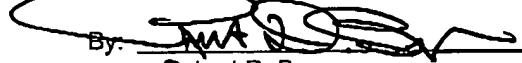

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is transmitted by facsimile to (703) 305-3579 to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on January 2, 2003.

Dated: January 2, 2003


By: Robert D. Buyan

Appendix A
Amendment in Marked-Up Format

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph appearing on page 1, below the heading "Related Applications," as follows":

(Twice Amended) [This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/059,531 which was a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/730,327, filed October 11, 1996, 08/730,496, filed October 11, 1996 and 08/837,295, filed April 11, 1997.] This application is a continuation of copending Application No. 09/059,531, filed April 13, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of three parent applications, namely Application No. 08/730,327, filed October 11, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,190,353, Application No. 08/730,496, filed October 11, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,830,222, both of which claim priority to Provisional Application No. 60/005,164 filed October 13, 1995 and Application No. 08/837,295, filed April 11, 1997 which claims priority to Provisional Application No. 60/028,922, filed August 26, 1996, and also is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 09/730,327, filed October 11, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,190,353 and Application No. 09/730,496, filed October 11, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,830,222. The entire disclosures of such related applications are incorporated herein by reference herein.